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13th May, 1960.COCOM Document No. 3991COORDINATING COMMITTEERECORD OF DISCUSSIONONCOORDINATING COMMITTEE PREMISES5th, 9th and 12th May, 1960

Present: Belgium(Luxembourg), Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States.

References: COCOM Docs. Nos. 3919, 3936, 3938, 3982, 3987 and Sub-C(60)1.

1. The CHAIRMAN informed the Committee that, consequent upon a personal suggestion from the Norwegian Delegate, the Norwegian Government had kindly offered the Committee housing space in the premises on the 5th floor of 28, rue Bayard, Paris 8eme. A group of delegates had inspected these premises and had found them to be eminently suitable. Consequently the Chairman had, on the 30th March 1960, written to the Norwegian Delegate informing him of this fact and asking him to provide particulars as to the conditions under which the Norwegian Government would be prepared to lease these premises. On the 3rd May, the Norwegian Delegate had written to confirm the availability of the abovementioned premises at a yearly rental of 40,000 NF, with an additional approximate 12,000 NF per annum for heating, lighting and other maintenance and running costs. The space offered represented about 350 square meters and comprised ten offices, one conference room, one kitchen, sanitary installations, etc. The Norwegian Government were unable to enter into a long-term engagement, but were prepared to agree that the Committee should occupy these premises for 12 months with a 3 months' notice period at any time thereafter. As regards the signing of the lease, they would ask that an exchange of notes take place between the Norwegian Delegation and the competent French authorities, in order to put the matter on a correct legal footing. In this connexion, the Chairman noted that the French Delegate had already been informed of the problem and was bringing it before the proper French authorities.

2. Before calling upon the Chairman of the Budget Sub-Committee who had been preparing figures for the Committee's future budget, the Chairman noted that the new expenditures incurred in the change of premises would remain well within the Committee's present budget. With the contribution of 3,000 NF per month offered by the French Delegation, and savings of 1,750 NF per month in the Secretariat staff and of 270 NF per month in cleaning services, the Committee had a credit of 5,020 NF per month. The Norwegian Government were requesting 3,355 NF per month plus an approximate 1,000 NF, making a total of 4,355 NF. It was thus clearly apparent that the Committee would be able to pay its new rent and remain well within its income. The Chairman wished to point out in this connexion that since the Norwegian Government would require quarterly payment in advance as far as the actual rent was concerned, delegations paying cash contributions should do so quarterly in advance from the 1st July 1960 onwards. In conclusion, he once again thanked the Norwegian Delegate for his personal assistance in providing the Committee with such satisfactory premises. He also thanked the French Delegate for his willingness to intervene with his authorities as regards the legal problems.

3. The CHAIRMAN of the Budget Sub-Committee (Mr. R.M. CAZALET) confirmed the figures given by the Chairman in the preceding paragraph. The present cost of renting, heating and lighting of the premises occupied by the Coordinating Committee amounted to NF 36,000 per annum paid by the French Delegation. The estimated cost of cleaning was another NF 3,900. The rental for the new premises would cost NF 40,000 per annum with a further NF 12,270 for

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heating, lighting, rates, maintenance and cleaning. The additional cost to the Committee would therefore be a little over NF 12,000 per annum. Provided that cash contributions were made quarterly in advance, the cost of the new premises, taking into account the fact that the French Delegation would be making a cash contribution, would be within the present cash resources of the Committee.

4. The NORWEGIAN Delegate stated that he was very happy to have been able to offer a solution to the Committee's housing problem. He had nothing to add to his letter of 3rd May, and was ready to give further clarification if necessary. The one condition made by his Government was that a correct legal procedure should be worked out between the French and Norwegian authorities for the signing of the lease. If the former could agree, the Norwegian Delegation would be happy to discuss details with them as soon as possible. The Delegate reminded the Committee that a few alterations were necessary before the removal could take place, in order to make the offices quite independent. He could say nothing further as to the length of the lease, his Government having agreed to rent the premises for 15 months and having taken no decision as to long-term use.

5. The FRENCH Delegate joined his colleagues in thanking the Norwegian Delegate and the Norwegian Government for their readiness to help the Committee. As soon as he had been informed, he had approached the competent French authorities and explained that the Norwegian Government wished them to sign the lease on behalf of the Coordinating Committee. It would appear that some difficulties would arise, since the matter would have to pass before an interministerial committee. The Delegate would do his utmost to bring about a successful conclusion, and would arrange for talks between his Norwegian colleague and the Personnel and Budget Section at the Quai d'Orsay. Turning to the overall financial question, the Delegate confirmed that his authorities were willing to pay a cash contribution of 36,000 NF per annum plus regular interpreting costs for the remainder of 1960. They felt, however, that the whole problem would be very much simplified if the Committee could be officially recognised, while keeping its debates secret.

6. The UNITED STATES Delegate noted that the existence of the Committee had been cited in unclassified material.

7. The ITALIAN Delegate thanked his Norwegian and French colleagues and expressed the hope that if difficulties were encountered, it would be possible for the French authorities to find a temporary solution before the 1st June.

8. The CHAIRMAN noted that the Committee was faced with the deadline of the 31st May. Pending any discussion of a juridical nature, he trusted that the French authorities would be able to find some way of satisfying the Norwegian authorities. The practical solution might be found in some form of verbal note, pending any final decision in this connexion.

9. The COMMITTEE agreed that the Chairman should send a letter of formal acceptance to the Norwegian Delegate. It further agreed to await the outcome of talks between the French authorities and the Norwegian Delegation before discussing the practical problem of the Committee's removal.

10. On the 9th May, the CHAIRMAN briefly recalled the discussion recorded above and called upon the French Delegate to report on his interviews with the competent French authorities concerning the lease of the premises offered to the Committee by the Norwegian Government.

11. The FRENCH Delegate stated that he had explained the situation to the budget department of the French Foreign Ministry, and that they had agreed that the Norwegian Delegation should prepare a draft lease for their signature. The matter could thus be settled within a very short space of time. He had moreover been instructed to state that since the demolition of the Palais de Chaillot offices was scheduled to start on the 1st June, the Committee must

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vacate them by the 31st May. In conclusion, the Delegate explained that, while his authorities were ready to help the Committee in finding a solution to the legal problems arising out of the change in premises, they nevertheless felt that Governments should study the question of secrecy in order to see if it was possible to recognise the Committee officially while keeping its debates secret.

12. The NORWEGIAN Delegate was glad to see that the legal problem had thus been solved. He understood from his French colleague's remarks that the French authorities were prepared to take charge of the rent on the conditions laid down in his own letter of the 3rd May. As soon as the question of the lease was settled, the Delegate undertook to have the necessary alterations carried out.

13. The GERMAN Delegate stated that, in view of the French authorities concern to see the Palais de Chaillot offices vacated before the 1st June, the Committee should assure the French Delegate that they would in any event leave that building by the 31st May.

14. The CHAIRMAN noted that delegations were in agreement with the above statement. He then turned to the question of the removal and invited Delegations, and in particular the French and United States Delegations who owned the office furniture and equipment, to suggest ways and means.

15. After an exchange of views, it appeared that the United States Delegation might be able to provide two removal trucks and the French Delegate promised to see if labour could be supplied by the French services. It was agreed that any repairs to office furniture should be effected before the removal. The Chairman himself undertook to deal with all the minor practical problems arising.

16. On the 12th May, the FRENCH Delegate informed the Committee that his authorities had agreed to discuss the terms of the lease directly with the Norwegian authorities and thus enable the Committee to move into its new premises as soon as possible, without insisting upon a discussion as to the secret character of the Committee.

17. The CHAIRMAN expressed his own and the Committee's thanks both the Norwegian and French Delegates for their most valuable assistance in providing the Committee with its new premises.

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